

Amendments to claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Please amend claims 43 through 91 as shown.

Claims 1-42 (canceled).

43. (currently amended): A method for isolating from a fluid stream at least a portion of both a selected compound from and a biological contaminant ~~from a fluid stream, the method~~ comprising

(a) directing a first fluid stream at having a selected pH and comprising ~~and including~~ at least one biological contaminant and a selected compound ~~so as to~~ flow along a first non-isoelectric selective membrane;

(b) directing a second fluid stream along the first non-isoelectric selective membrane so as to be isolated from the first fluid stream ~~thereby~~;

(c) directing a third fluid stream so as to be separated from one of the first and the second fluid streams by a second non-isoelectric selective membrane, ~~wherein~~ ~~whereby~~ the second non-isoelectric selective membrane has a preselected pore size that allows selective migration of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant ~~components~~ present in at least one of the first and the second fluid streams through the second non-isoelectric selective membrane into the third fluid stream;

(d) applying at least one electric potential across at least one of the fluid streams, wherein ~~whereby~~ at least a portion of either ~~at least one of~~ the selected compound or ~~and~~ the at least one biological contaminant present in a fluid stream moves through a non-isoelectric selective membrane into a different fluid stream, wherein substantially all transmembrane migration of the selected compound and the at least one biological contaminant is initiated by the application of the at least one electric potential and

(e) maintaining step (d) until at least one of the fluid streams contains a desired purity of the selected compound and a different fluid ~~another~~ stream contains the at least one biological contaminant.

44. (currently amended): The method according to claim 43, wherein ~~43 whereby~~ the first non-isoelectric selective membrane has a preselected pore size so as to allow selective migration of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant ~~present~~ ~~components~~ in the first fluid

stream through the first non-isolectric selective membrane into the second fluid stream while and selectively retaining ~~retain~~ the other of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant present ~~other components~~ in a different ~~an other~~ fluid stream.

45. (currently amended): The method according to claim 43, wherein ~~43 whereby~~ the step of directing the third fluid stream comprises directing the third fluid stream so as to be separated from the second fluid stream by the second non-isolectric selective membrane.

46. (currently amended): The method according to claim 45, wherein ~~45 whereby~~ the second non-isolectric selective membrane has a preselected pore size, ~~thereby at least~~ substantially preventing ~~at least one of the selected compound and~~ or the at least one biological contaminant present in ~~removed to~~ the second fluid stream from migrating through the second non-isolectric selective membrane into the third fluid stream while substantially retaining ~~at least one of the~~ other of the selected compound ~~and~~ or the at least one biological contaminant present in the second fluid stream.

47. (currently amended): The method according to claim 46, wherein ~~46 whereby~~ at least a portion of ~~at least one of the selected compound and~~ or the at least one biological contaminant moves from ~~to~~ the second fluid stream through the second non-isolectric selective membrane into the third fluid stream.

48. (currently amended): The method according to claim 46, 46 further comprising directing a fourth fluid stream separated from one of the fluid streams by a third non-isolectric selective membrane, wherein ~~whereby~~ a preselected pore size of the third non-isolectric selective membrane allows selective migration of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant present ~~components~~ in one of the fluid streams through the third non-isolectric selective membrane into the fourth fluid stream.

49. (currently amended): The method according to claim 48, wherein ~~48 whereby~~ the third non-isolectric selective membrane has a preselected pore size, substantially preventing ~~at least one of the any~~ selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant remaining in the first fluid stream, ~~any biological contaminant remaining in the first fluid stream, and any other compounds remaining in the first fluid stream~~ from migrating through the third non-isolectric selective membrane into the fourth fluid

stream while substantially retaining the other of ~~at least one of~~ the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant present ~~compound, biological contaminants, and other components~~ in the second fluid stream.

50. (currently amended): The method according to claim 48, wherein ~~48 whereby~~ at least a portion of ~~at least one of~~ the any selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant remaining in the first fluid stream, ~~any biological contaminant remaining in the first fluid stream, and any other compounds remaining in the first fluid stream~~ moves through the third non-isoelectric selective membrane into the fourth fluid stream.

51. (currently amended): The method according to claim 43, wherein ~~43 whereby~~ the step of directing a third fluid stream comprises directing the third fluid stream so as to be separated from the first fluid stream by the second non-isoelectric selective membrane ~~fluid stream~~.

52. (currently amended): The method according to claim 43, wherein ~~43 whereby~~ the second non-isoelectric selective membrane has a preselected pore size, substantially preventing ~~so as to substantially prevent~~ ~~at least one of~~ the any selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant remaining in the first fluid stream, ~~any biological contaminant remaining in the first fluid stream, and any other compounds remaining in the first fluid stream~~ from migrating through the second non-isoelectric selective membrane into the third fluid stream while ~~and~~ substantially retaining ~~retain~~ the other of ~~at least one of~~ the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant present, ~~biological contaminant, and other components~~ in the first fluid stream.

53. (currently amended): The method according to claim 43, wherein the ~~43 whereby~~ at least ~~one of~~ any selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant remaining in the first fluid stream, ~~any biological contaminants remaining in the first fluid stream, and any other compounds remaining in the first fluid stream~~ moves through the second non-isoelectric selective membrane into the third fluid stream.

54. (currently amended): The method according to claim 43, 43 further comprising directing a fourth fluid stream separated from the second fluid stream by a third non-isoelectric selective membrane,

~~wherein~~ whereby a preselected pore size of the third isoelectric selective membrane allows selective migration of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant present components in the second fluid stream through the third non-isoelectric selective membrane into the fourth fluid stream.

55. (currently amended): The method according to claim 54, wherein ~~54~~ whereby the third non-isoelectric selective membrane has a preselected pore size, substantially preventing ~~so as to substantially prevent at least one of the selected compound and or the at least one selected biological contaminant present in~~ contaminants removed to the second fluid stream from migrating through the third non-isoelectric selective membrane into the fourth fluid stream while substantially retaining the other of ~~at least one of the selected compound and or the at least one selected biological contaminant present~~ in the second fluid stream.

56. (currently amended): The method according to claim 54, wherein ~~54~~ whereby at least a portion of ~~at least one of the selected compound and or the at least one~~ biological contaminant moves from ~~to~~ the second fluid stream through the third non-isoelectric selective membrane into the fourth fluid stream.

57. (currently amended): The method according to claim 43, wherein ~~43~~ whereby the method further comprises periodically stopping and reversing the electric potential, wherein whereby any of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant compounds of the first fluid stream that has ~~having~~ entered the first non-isoelectric selective membrane from the first fluid stream moves ~~move~~ back into the first fluid stream while ~~substantially preventing~~ any of the selected compound and or the at least one biological contaminant that has ~~have~~ entered the second fluid stream is substantively prevented from re-entering ~~to re-enter~~ the first fluid stream.

58. (currently amended): The method according to claim 43, wherein ~~43~~ whereby the first fluid stream further comprises ~~includes~~ a compound ~~from which the selected compound is separated, whereby such compound is selected from the group consisting of blood proteins, immunoglobulins, recombinant proteins~~ proteins, and combinations thereof from which the selected compound is separated.

59. (currently amended): The method according to claim 43, wherein ~~43 whereby~~ the at least one biological contaminant is selected from the group consisting of viruses, bacteria, prions, yeast, lipopolysaccharides, toxins, and endotoxins ~~endotoxins, and combinations thereof~~.

60. (currently amended): The method according to claim 43, wherein ~~43 whereby~~ the pH of the first fluid stream is selected by adding a buffer at having the required pH, the pH being ~~and the pH is~~ selected from the group consisting of a pH lower than the isoelectric point of the selected compound, a pH at about the isoelectric point of the selected compound ~~compound~~, and a pH higher than the isoelectric point of the selected compound.

61. (currently amended): A method for isolating from a fluid stream ~~at least a portion of both a~~ selected compound from ~~and a~~ biological contaminant ~~from a fluid stream, the method comprising:~~

(a) directing a first fluid stream at having a selected pH and comprising ~~including~~ at least one biological contaminant and a selected compound so as to flow along a first non-isoelectric selective membrane;

(b) directing a second fluid stream along the first non-isoelectric selective membrane so as to be isolated from the first fluid stream ~~thereby~~;

(c) directing a third fluid stream so as to be separated from one of the first and the second fluid streams by a second non-isoelectric selective membrane;

(d) applying at least one electric potential across at least the first and the second fluid streams, wherein ~~whereby~~ the application of the ~~such~~ at least one electric potential causes movement of at least a portion of the at least one biological contaminant through ~~contaminants through~~ the first non-isoelectric selective membrane into the second fluid stream while the selected compound is prevented from entering the second fluid stream, wherein ~~whereby~~ the second non-isoelectric selective membrane has a preselected pore size that allows selective migration of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant present ~~components~~ in at least one of the first and the second fluid streams through the second non-isoelectric selective membrane into the third fluid stream, and wherein substantially all transmembrane migration of the selected compound and the at least one biological contaminant is initiated by the application of the electric potential; and

(e) maintaining step (d) until at least one of the fluid streams contains a desired purity of the selected compound.

62. (currently amended): The method according to claim 61, wherein ~~61 whereby~~ the first non-isoelectric selective membrane has a preselected pore size so as to allow selective migration of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant present ~~components~~ in the first fluid stream through the first non-isoelectric selective membrane into the second fluid stream ~~and~~ while selectively ~~retain~~ retaining the other of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant present ~~components~~ in the first fluid stream.

63. (currently amended): The method according to claim 61, wherein ~~61 whereby~~ the step of directing the third fluid stream comprises directing the third fluid stream so as to be separated from the first fluid stream by the second non-isoelectric selective membrane.

64. (currently amended): The method according to claim 63, wherein ~~63 whereby~~ the second non-isoelectric selective membrane has a preselected pore size, substantially preventing ~~so as to substantially prevent at least one of~~ the selected compound ~~and~~ or the at least one biological contaminant remaining in the first fluid stream from migrating through the second non-isoelectric selective membrane into the third fluid stream while substantially retaining the other of ~~at least one of~~ the selected compound ~~and~~ or the at least one biological contaminant present in the first fluid stream.

65. (currently amended): The method according to claim 63, wherein ~~63 whereby~~ the application of an ~~a~~ electric potential across the third fluid stream causes movement of at least a portion of ~~at least one of~~ the selected compound ~~and~~ or the at least one selected biological contaminant ~~contaminants~~ remaining in the first fluid stream through ~~through~~ the second non-isoelectric selective membrane into the third fluid stream.

66. (currently amended): The method according to claim 63, 63 further comprising directing a fourth fluid stream separated from the second fluid stream by a third non-isoelectric selective membrane, wherein ~~whereby~~ a preselected pore size of the third non-isoelectric selective membrane allows selective migration of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant present ~~components~~ in the second fluid stream through the third non-isoelectric selective membrane into the fourth fluid stream.

67. (currently amended): The method according to claim 66, wherein 66, the third non-isoelectric selective membrane has a preselected pore size, substantially preventing so as to ~~substantially prevent at least one of any~~ the at least one biological contaminant contaminants removed to the second fluid stream and any of the selected compound ~~any other compounds~~ in the second fluid stream from migrating through the third non-isoelectric selective membrane into the fourth fluid stream while and substantially retaining ~~retain~~ the at least one ~~of the selected~~ biological contaminant contaminants and any of the selected compound present ~~other components~~ in the second fluid stream.

68. (currently amended): The method according to claim 66, wherein 66 ~~whereby~~ the application of the at least one a electric potential across the fourth fluid stream causes migration of at least a portion of any of the at least one ~~of any~~ biological contaminant removed to the second fluid stream, and any of the selected compound present ~~other compounds~~ in the second fluid stream through the third non-isoelectric selective membrane into the fourth fluid stream.

69. (currently amended): The method according to claim 61, wherein 61 ~~whereby~~ the step of directing a third fluid stream comprises directing a third fluid stream so as to be separated from the second fluid stream by the second non-isoelectric selective membrane.

70. (currently amended): The method according to claim 69, wherein 69 ~~whereby~~ the second non-isoelectric selective membrane has a preselected pore size, substantially preventing so as to ~~substantially prevent at least one of any~~ the at least one biological contaminant contaminants removed to the second fluid stream and any of the selected compound present ~~any other compounds~~ in the second fluid stream from migrating through the second non-isoelectric selective membrane into the third fluid stream.

71. (currently amended): The method according to claim 69, wherein 69 ~~whereby~~ the application of an a electric potential across the third fluid stream causes migration of at least a portion of any of the at least one ~~of any~~ biological contaminant contaminants removed to the second fluid stream, and any of the selected compound present ~~other compounds~~ in the second fluid stream through the second non-isoelectric selective membrane into the third fluid stream.

72. (currently amended): The method according to claim 69, ~~69~~ further comprising directing a fourth fluid stream separated from the first fluid stream by a third non-isoelectric selective membrane, ~~wherein~~ ~~whereby~~ a preselected pore size of the third non-isoelectric selective membrane allows selective migration of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant present ~~components~~ in the first fluid stream through the third non-isoelectric selective membrane into the fourth fluid stream.

73. (currently amended): The method according to claim 72, ~~wherein 72~~ ~~whereby~~ the third non-isoelectric selective membrane has a preselected pore size, substantially preventing ~~so as to substantially prevent at least one of the selected compound or the at least one~~ ~~compounds and selected biological contaminant~~ ~~contaminants~~ remaining in the first fluid stream from migrating through the third non-isoelectric selective membrane into the fourth fluid stream while ~~and~~ substantially retaining the other of ~~retain at least one of the selected compound or the at least one~~ ~~and selected biological contaminant present~~ ~~contaminants~~ in the first fluid stream.

74. (currently amended): The method according to claim 72, ~~wherein 72~~ ~~whereby~~ the application of an ~~a~~ electric potential across the fourth fluid stream causes movement of at least a portion of ~~at least one of the selected compound or the at least one~~ ~~and selected biological contaminant~~ ~~contaminants~~ remaining in the first fluid stream through the third non-isoelectric selective membrane into the fourth fluid stream.

75. (currently amended): The method according to claim 61, ~~61~~ further comprising periodically stopping and reversing the electric potential to cause movement of any of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant that has ~~at least any compounds of the first fluid stream having entered the first non-isoelectric selective membrane from the first fluid stream to move back into the first fluid stream~~ ~~while~~ ~~and~~ ~~whereby~~ substantially not causing any of the selected compound or the at least one ~~and biological contaminant~~ ~~contaminants~~ that has ~~have~~ entered the second fluid stream to re-enter the first fluid stream.

76. (currently amended): The method according to claim 61, ~~wherein 61~~ ~~whereby~~ the first fluid stream further comprises ~~includes~~ a compound ~~from which the selected compound is separated, whereby~~

~~such compound~~ is selected from the group consisting of blood proteins, immunoglobulins, recombinant proteins ~~proteins~~, and combinations thereof from which the selected compound is separated.

77. (currently amended): The method according to claim 61, wherein ~~61 whereby~~ the at least one biological contaminant is selected from the group consisting of viruses, bacteria, prions, yeast, lipopolysaccharides, toxins, and endotoxins ~~endotoxins, and combinations thereof~~.

78. (currently amended): The method according to claim 61, wherein ~~61 whereby~~ the pH of the first fluid stream is selected by adding a buffer at having the required pH, the pH being selected from the group consisting of a pH lower than the isoelectric point of the selected compound, a pH at about the isoelectric point of the selected compound, and a pH higher than the isoelectric point of the selected compound.

79. (currently amended): A method for isolating from a fluid stream ~~at least a portion of a~~ selected compound from a biological contaminant ~~a fluid stream, the method comprising:~~

(a) directing a first fluid stream at having a selected pH and comprising ~~including~~ at least a selected compound and at least one biological contaminant ~~so as to flow along a first~~ non-isoelectric selective membrane;

(b) directing a second fluid stream along the first non-isoelectric selective membrane so as to be isolated from the first fluid stream ~~thereby~~;

(c) directing a third fluid stream so as to be separated from one of the first and the second fluid streams by a second non-isoelectric selective membrane;

(d) applying at least one electric potential across at least the first and second fluid streams, wherein ~~whereby~~ the application of the ~~such~~ at least one electric potential causes movement of at least a portion of the selected compound through the first non-isoelectric selective membrane into the second fluid stream, wherein ~~whereby~~ the second non-isoelectric selective membrane has a preselected pore size that allows selective migration of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant present ~~components~~ in at least one of the first and the second fluid streams through the second non-isoelectric selective membrane into the third fluid stream, wherein ~~and~~ substantially all transmembrane migration of the selected compound is initiated by the application of the electric potential; and

(e) maintaining step (d) until at least one of the fluid streams contains a desired purity of the selected compound.

80. (currently amended): The method according to claim 79, wherein ~~79 whereby~~ the first non-isoelectric selective membrane has a preselected pore size so as to allow selective migration of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant present ~~components~~ in the first fluid stream through the first non-isoelectric selective membrane into the second fluid stream while and selectively retaining the ~~retain~~ other of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant present ~~components~~ in the first fluid stream.

81. (currently amended): The method according to claim 79, 79 further comprising directing a fourth fluid stream separated from the other of the first and the second fluid streams by a third non-isoelectric selective membrane, wherein ~~whereby~~ a preselected pore size of the third non-isoelectric selective membrane allows selective migration of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant present ~~components~~ in the other of first and the second fluid streams through the first non-isoelectric selective membrane into the fourth fluid stream.

82. (currently amended): A method for isolating from a fluid stream ~~at least a portion of a~~ selected compound from a biological contaminant ~~fluid stream, the method comprising:~~

(a) directing a first fluid stream at having a selected pH and comprising ~~including at least a~~ selected compound and at least one biological contaminant ~~so as to flow along a first non-isoelectric~~ selective membrane;

(b) directing a second fluid stream along the first selective membrane so as to be isolated from the first fluid stream ~~thereby~~;

(c) directing a third fluid stream so as to be separated from one of the first and the second fluid streams by a second non-isoelectric selective membrane;

(d) applying at least one electric potential across at least the first and the second fluid streams, wherein ~~whereby~~ the application of the ~~such~~ at least one electric potential causes movement of at least a portion of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant present ~~components~~ in the first fluid stream through the first non-isoelectric selective membrane into the second fluid stream while the selected compound is prevented from entering the second fluid stream, wherein ~~whereby~~ the

second non-isoelectric selective membrane has a preselected pore size that allows selective migration of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant ~~components~~ in at least one of the first and the second fluid streams through the second non-isoelectric selective membrane into the third fluid stream, wherein ~~and~~ substantially all transmembrane migration of the selected compound is initiated by the application of the electric potential; and

(e) maintaining step (d) until at least one of the fluid streams contains a desired purity of the selected compound.

83. (currently amended): The method according to claim 82, wherein ~~82 whereby~~ the first non-isoelectric selective membrane has a preselected pore size so as to allow selective migration of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant present ~~components~~ in the first fluid stream through the first non-isoelectric selective membrane into the second fluid stream while ~~and~~ selectively retaining ~~retain~~ the other of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant present ~~other components~~ in the first fluid stream.

84. (currently amended): The method according to claim 82, 82 further comprising directing a fourth fluid stream separated from the other of the first and the second fluid streams by a third non-isoelectric selective membrane, wherein ~~whereby~~ the preselected pore size of the third non-isoelectric selective membrane allows selective migration of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant present ~~components~~ in the other of first and the second fluid streams through the third non-isoelectric selective membrane into the fourth fluid stream.

85. (currently amended): A system for isolating from a fluid stream ~~at least a portion of both a~~ selected compound from a ~~and~~ biological contaminant ~~from a fluid stream, the system comprising:~~

means for directing a first fluid stream at ~~having~~ a selected pH and comprising ~~including~~ at least one biological contaminant and a selected compound so as to flow along a first non-isoelectric selective membrane;

means for directing a second fluid stream along the first non-isoelectric selective membrane so as to be isolated from the first fluid stream ~~thereby~~;

means for directing a third fluid stream separated from one of the first and the second fluid streams by a second non-isoelectric selective membrane; and

means for applying at least one electric potential across at least the first and the second fluid streams, wherein ~~whereby~~ the application of the ~~such~~ at least one electric potential causes movement of at least a portion of ~~at least one of a~~ the selected compound or the at least one ~~and the~~ biological contaminant through the first non-isoelectric selective membrane into the second fluid stream, wherein ~~whereby~~ a preselected pore size of the second non-isoelectric selective membrane allows selective migration of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant ~~components~~ in at least one of the first and the second fluid streams through the second non-isoelectric selective membrane into the third fluid stream ~~streams~~, wherein ~~and~~ substantially all transmembrane migration of the selected compound is initiated by the application of the electric potential.

86. (currently amended) A system for isolating from a fluid stream ~~at least a portion of both a~~ selected compound from a ~~and~~ biological contaminant ~~from a fluid stream~~, the system comprising:

means for directing a first fluid stream at ~~having~~ a selected pH and comprising ~~including~~ at least one biological contaminant and a selected compound so as to flow along a first non-isoelectric selective membrane;

means for directing a second fluid stream along the first non-isoelectric selective membrane so as to be isolated from the first fluid stream ~~thereby~~;

means for directing a third fluid stream separated from one of the first and the second fluid streams by a second non-isoelectric selective membrane; and

means for applying at least one electric potential across at least the first and the second fluid streams, wherein ~~whereby~~ the application of the ~~such~~ at least one electric ~~voltage~~ potential causes movement of at least a portion of the at least one biological contaminant through the first non-isoelectric selective membrane into the second fluid stream while the selected compound is prevented from entering the second fluid stream, wherein ~~whereby~~ a preselected pore size of the second non-isoelectric selective membrane allows selective migration of the selected compound or the at least one biological contaminant present ~~components~~ in at least one of the first and the second fluid streams through the second non-isoelectric selective membrane into the third fluid stream, wherein ~~and~~ substantially all transmembrane migration of the selected compound is initiated by the application of the electric potential.

87. (currently amended): The method according to claim 43 wherein the first fluid stream is adjacent to the second fluid stream and the third fluid stream is adjacent to the second fluid stream.

88. (currently amended): The method according to claim 43 wherein the first fluid stream is adjacent to the second fluid stream and adjacent to the third second fluid stream.

89. (currently amended): The method according to claim 43 further comprising a fourth fluid stream separated from an adjacent fluid stream by a third non-isoelectric selective membrane.

90. (currently amended): A method for concurrently isolating from a fluid stream at least a portion of both a selected compound from and a biological contaminant from a fluid stream, the method comprising:

- (a) directing a first fluid stream ~~so as~~ to flow along a first non-isoelectric selective membrane;
- (b) directing a second fluid stream along the first non-isoelectric selective membrane so as to be isolated from the first fluid stream ~~thereby~~;
- (c) directing a third fluid stream separated from one of the first and the second fluid streams by a second non-isoelectric selective membrane, wherein the second non-isoelectric selective membrane has a preselected pore size that allows selective migration of the selected compound or at least one biological contaminant present ~~components~~ in at least one of the first and the second fluid streams through the second non-isoelectric selective membrane into the third fluid stream, and wherein substantially all transmembrane migration of the selected compound is initiated by the application of the electric potential;
- (d) providing the at least one biological contaminant and the a selected compound at in a selected pH to at least one of the streams ~~stream so as~~ to flow along a non-isoelectric selective membrane;
- (e) applying at least one electric ~~voltage~~ potential across the fluid streams, wherein the application of the ~~such~~ at least one electric ~~voltage~~ potential causes movement of at least a portion of ~~at least one of~~ the selected compound or the at least one ~~and the~~ biological contaminant through a non-isoelectric selective membrane into a different ~~another~~ fluid stream, and
- (f) maintaining step (e) until at least one of the fluid streams contains a desired purity of the selected compound and a different ~~another~~ stream contains the at least one biological contaminant.

91. (currently amended): The method according to claim 90 further comprising directing a fourth **fluid** stream separated from at least one of the first, second or third **fluid** streams by a third **non-isoelectric** selective membrane.